

In claim 16, line 1, please delete "any of claims 1 to 12" and insert --claim 1--.

In claim 17, line 1, please delete "any of claims 1 to 16" and insert --claim 1--.

In claim 18, line 1, please delete "any of claims 1 to 16" and insert --claim 1--.

In claim 19, line 1, please delete "any of claims 1 to 18" and insert --claim 1--.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, and 19.

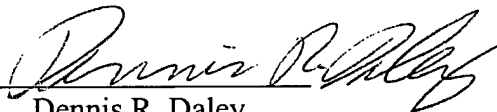
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Dennis R. Daley (Reg. No. 34,994), at (612) 336-4689.

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Dated: September 6, 2000

By 
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